



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

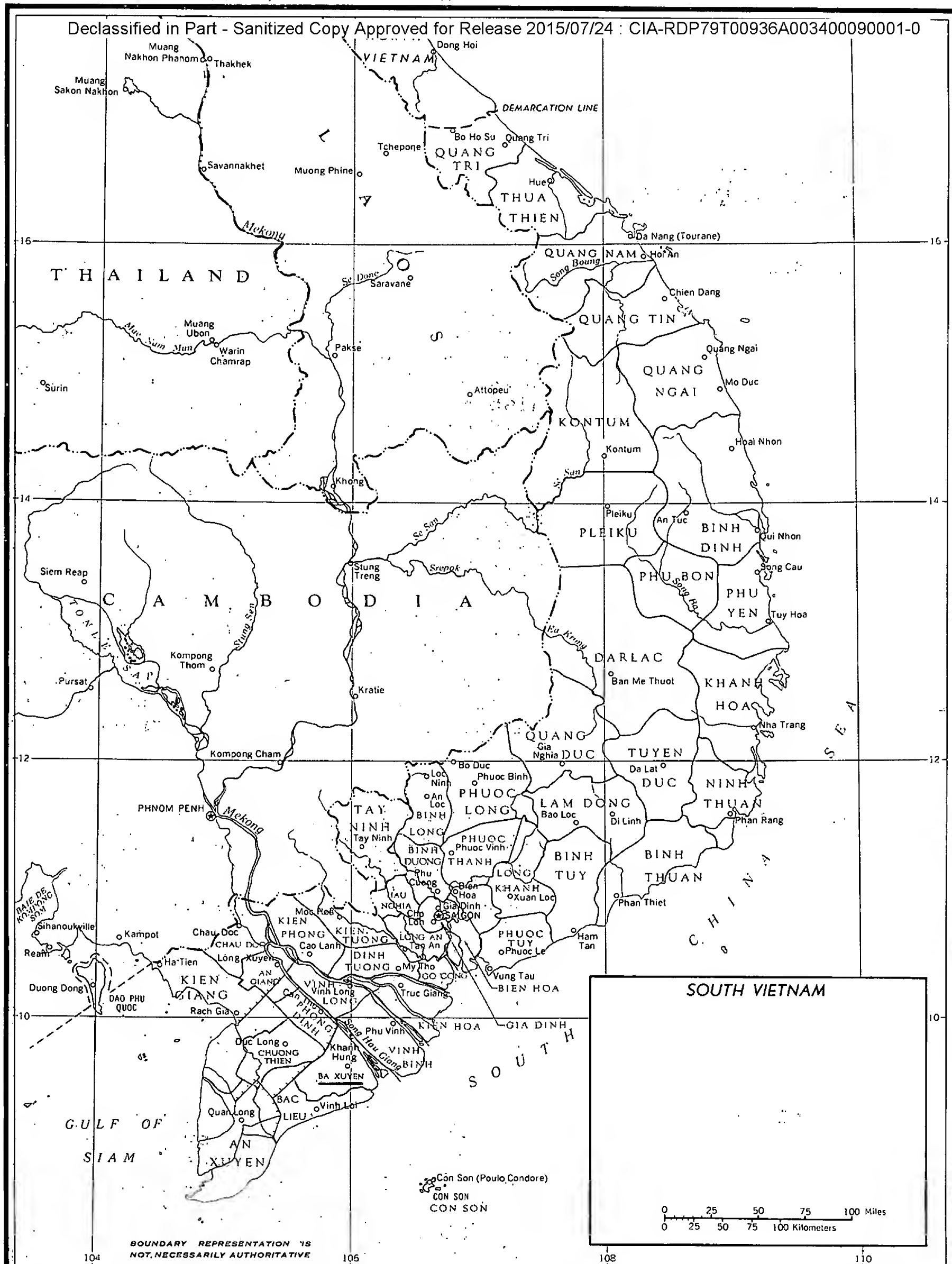
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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28 DECEMBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~



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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

The communiqué issued today by Premier Huong and Chief of State Suu leaves the door open for reconciliation with the generals. Huong may now seek the formation of a new legislative body that would include some members of the disbanded High National Council. Some quid pro quo, including the release of political hostages, would probably be demanded from the military. The Buddhists reiterated their opposition to Huong over the weekend, but show no clear signs of an imminent renewal of agitation.

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Press reports of a sizable government military victory apparently refer to an operation yesterday in Ba Xuyen province.

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2. Congo

3. Italy

Only about half of Premier Moro's own Christian Democrat Party appears to have voted for new president Saragat, the Social Democratic leader, with those who have opposed the center-left coalition probably abstaining. This puts the expected severe strain on Moro's government. The next step will probably be a Christian Democratic Party conference, at which the new factional alignments will be sorted out.

4. Egypt

Nasir has allowed a couple of hints in the last few days that he would like to better relations with the US. A brief survey of events leading up to these approaches is at Annex.

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ANNEX

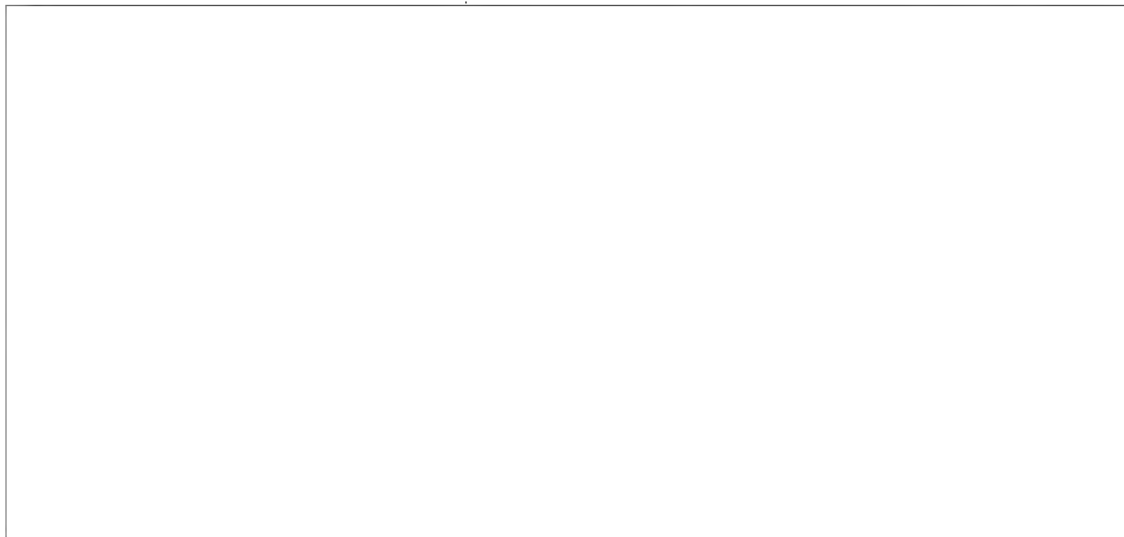
Egyptian-US Relations

Nasir's anti-US trend first became apparent last summer in wholesale criticism by the Egyptian propaganda apparatus of US policies throughout the world, as well as in the Middle East. With regard to Vietnam, Cairo has taken the line that the US is interfering there, and that the US alone is guilty of doing so.

Similar charges have been reiterated for some time regarding US support of the government of the Congo. On 1 December the rubber stamp Egyptian Assembly passed a resolution denouncing the "abominable crime" of the US-Belgian rescue operation at Stanleyville. Egyptian air shipments of arms to the Congolese rebels have been moving steadily into the Sudan [REDACTED]

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In addition, the Nasir regime has displayed animosity toward the US in a variety of other ways. Recent examples include the burning of the USIS library in Cairo--which the authorities made no effort to stop and may have staged--and the government's irresponsible handling of the recent crash of a US-owned private plane near Alexandria.



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Nasir in recent days has also been at pains to identify Egyptian interests more closely with the Soviet Union. The Soviets have publicly reciprocated, although it is doubtful that Moscow in reality has recently gained more confidence in Nasir, or has decided to give him more aid without strings.

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